

Nov 6, 2002

This is an advisory regarding recommendations to households served by water from the Rose Valley Water Company.

Rose Valley Water Company serves the area bounded by Pinnacle Peak on the north, Beardsley Road on the south, 83<sup>rd</sup> Ave. on the east and 95<sup>th</sup> Ave. on the west. All within zip code 85382.

As a precaution, we recommend to residents to refrain from using Rose Valley Water for drinking, cooking or bathing. Avoid using or immersing in any standing water like pools, hot tubs, Jacuzzi's etc.

Boil water or use bottled water when cooking or drinking. Don't let children immerse their head in any water.

You can flush toilets, do laundry or dishes.

As a precaution, pets should not drink the water.

If you have a swimming pool, immediately super chlorinate the pool. The person super-chlorinating the pool should be qualified in the service and maintenance of swimming pools. Do not permit anyone to enter the swimming pool until the above process has been completed and the water company or Environmental Services Department have publicly announced that it is once again safe to use swimming and bathing facilities.

If you have a hot tub, Jacuzzi, or Jacuzzi-style bathtub, immediately take these appliances out of service until they have been cleaned, super chlorinated, and refilled with clean, chlorinated water, and the water company or Environmental Services Department have publicly announced that it is once again safe to use swimming and bathing facilities.

We have received information that additional tests by Rose Valley Water showed questionable findings for the amoeba, *Naegleria fowleri*. This amoeba caused the infection of two five-year-old boys in Peoria who subsequently died.

Because these tests were carried out using methods still under research and not licensed for use in this country, we are retesting the water system to verify results in collaboration with the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The Rose Valley Water Company has been chlorinating its system since October 18.

As a precaution, Maricopa County requested the Rose Valley Water to connect all residents currently using Rose Valley Water to the City of Peoria water system.

Increased chlorination is now provided at the junction of Peoria's system with the Rose Valley Water system. The connection was made on November 4<sup>th</sup> and the Rose Valley Water system has been flushed.

When residents first come online with this system, they can expect their water to come out milky or brown. This is normal. The City of Peoria will provide instructions on how and when you should flush the water in your house. As a precaution, do not use the tap water until notified.

The incubation period or time between infection and symptoms for this disease (amoebic meningo encephalitis caused by *Naegleria fowleri*) is 7-10 days.

The symptoms include headache, nausea and vomiting, stiff neck, confusion, lack of attention to people and surroundings, loss of balance and bodily control, seizures and hallucinations.

If you experience these symptoms, please contact your doctor or health care provider or the emergency room.

There are no tests to identify this disease before symptoms develop.

To avoid the infection;

- Do not swim or jump into warm, stagnant, fresh water, such as ponds or warm water discharge pools, or unchlorinated swimming pools.

- Do not swim in polluted water.

- Do not swim in areas posted as "No Swimming."

- Hold your nose, or use nose plugs when jumping or diving into water.

New River water is not involved in this advisory.

Maricopa County Department of Environmental Services notified all schools, restaurants, churches, daycares and other institutions in the area of this advisory.

For further health information, call 602-506-6900 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

To listen to this information again, press \*.

To return to the previous menu, press 8.

To return to the main menu, press #.